

EPA/NE States PFAS Working Group Call
10/23/17 (1st call of group)

EPA: Meghan Cassidy, Jane Downing, Ernie Waterman, Jan Szaro

CT: Shannon Pociu (DEEP), Lori Mathieu (DPH)

MA: Douglas Fine (Office of Water), Mark Smith (ORS)

ME: Kerri Malinowski (Office of the Commissioner)

NH: Brandon Kernan (Drinking Water)

RI:

VT: Richard Spiese (Waste)

MCassidy provided 1) genesis of group and 2) EPA's vision.

1. After numerous senior level discussions in state meetings, ECOS, etc. Acting RA Deb Szaro reached out to Commissioners of state Environmental Depts. Outlining desire to start group and asking for a single POC. Some states would like to include representation from other programs. EPA agreed to this proposal, but did stress that the hope was that the size of the group remain manageable. EPA will work directly with the single POC who can then share/confer with others in their state as needed. **TO DO: States wishing to include additional members send names/emails to MCassidy by 10/25.**

Recent internal Region 1 discussions highlighted that in some states (CT, RI, ME) responsibility for drinking water resides in Health Departments. Jane Downing reached out to these states asking/offering participation. Lori Mathieu (CT DPH) asked that a request go to Health Commissioners for states in question. **TO DO: Jane Downing/Kate Melanson will talk to Deb Szaro about sending such requests.**

2. EPA's proposed role for the working group:
 - a. Share information (Lessons learned, identify communication needs, tee up global issues/needs, identify issues for senior level involvement if needed, identify policy issues, understand state initiatives/efforts, etc.).
 - b. Coordinate resource requests/needs made to EPA.

Round Robin re: what states would like to discuss on future calls.

CT: Strategies for proactive sampling.

What to do about POTW discharges/SW standards (NPDES).

MA: What are states doing for proactive sampling of public and private water.

Which PFAS compounds are states including in their standards (i.e., PFOA/PFOS, other PFAS, etc.)

Share info about technologies/costs for DW treatment.

Land application of sludge (agency/state actions?)

ME: Looking forward to an open forum for discussion of issues without broadcasting discussions.

NH: How are states dealing with detections that exceed the HA, detections without exceedances?

Dealing with discharges (air? Sw?) of non-PFOA/PFOS.

Biosolids (soil leaching standards).

Discussion/overview of analytical methods/development/issues.

Source control?

In-home audits for PFAS in the home.

VT: Resources. How are states handling the workload?

EPA Regional Laboratory Capabilities (Ernie Waterman)

OEME can run UCMR Method 537 (6 compounds).

Currently 1 analyst/1 instrument. Second instrument/analyst likely to come online in the future. Primary goal is to support EPA, but can/are doing some work for states.

Region 3 also running Method 537. Some other regional labs working on non-water method development.

EPA is aware that some state labs have developed capacity. OEME hopes to serve as back-up for such state labs. States should check with their own labs first before coming to OEME.

MA state lab can run Method 537 (full suite) but also has limited capacity. They may develop capacity/methods for fish tissue and cranberries.

November Call (11/20/17)

MA, VT and NH will provide an overview of state efforts/initiatives.

December Call (12/18/17)

ME, RI, CT will provide an overview of state efforts/initiatives.